

Hewlett-Packard Company
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document comprising:

~~determining at least one content characteristic of the document;~~ counting a number of pages in the document;

if the number of pages is less than or equal to a threshold, then selecting a first print setting from the plurality of print settings; and

if the number of pages is greater than the threshold, then selecting a second print setting from the plurality of print settings;

~~identifying from the plurality of print settings an optimum print setting that is best suited for the content characteristic;~~

and

~~utilizing the optimum print setting~~ the selected print setting to print the document.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method of printing of claim 1, ~~wherein the step of determining at least one content characteristic further comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

determining an amount of text data in the document; and

selecting the optimum print setting based on the amount of text data and the number of pages in the document.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of printing of claim 1, ~~wherein the step of determining at least one content characteristic further comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

determining an amount of image data in the document; and

selecting the optimum print setting based on the amount of image data and the number of pages in the document.

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5. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document comprising: The method of printing of claim 1, wherein the step of determining at least one content characteristic further comprises the steps of:

comparing an amount of text data in the document and an amount of image data in the document; [[and]]

selecting [[the]] an optimum print setting from the plurality of print settings based on the amount of text data as compared to the amount of image data in the document[[.]]; and

utilizing the optimum print setting to print the document.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Canceled).

8. (Original) A method of selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document in response to a print request comprising the steps of:

gathering data relating to prior print setting selections;

comparing the prior print setting selection data to at least one characteristic of the print request;

identifying an optimum print setting for the print request; and

utilizing the optimum print setting to print the document.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document in response to a print request comprising the steps of:

analyzing a plurality of characteristics relating to the print request, the plurality of characteristics including an input/output protocol, a host device type, an application being used to print the document, a job queue status, and a time of day;

identifying from the plurality of print settings an optimum print setting that is best suited for at least one of the plurality of characteristics; and

utilizing the optimum print setting to print the document.

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10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of analyzing a plurality of characteristics further comprises the steps of:

gathering data relating to prior print setting selections; and

analyzing the prior print setting selection data to identify the optimum print setting.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of weighting each of the plurality of characteristics according to at least one factor.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document comprising:
code that counts a number of pages in the document; determines at least one content characteristic of the document;
code that selects a first print setting from the plurality of print settings if the number of pages is less than or equal to a threshold;
code that selects a second print setting from the plurality of print settings if the number of pages is greater than the threshold;
~~code that identifies from the plurality of print settings an optimum print setting that is best suited for the content characteristic;~~
and
code that utilizes the [[optimum]] selected print setting to print the document.

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17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for selecting one of a plurality of print settings for printing a document in response to a print request comprising:

code that analyzes a plurality of characteristics relating to the print request, the plurality of characteristics including an input/output protocol, a host device type, an application being used to print the document, a job queue status, and a time of day;

code that identifies from the plurality of print settings an optimum print setting that is best suited for at least one of the plurality of characteristics; and

code that utilizes the optimum print setting to print the document.